



Docket No. 48913-CON (70207)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Peter C. Meltzer, et al.

U.S.S.N.: 09/975,586

EXAMINER: Aulakh, Charanjit

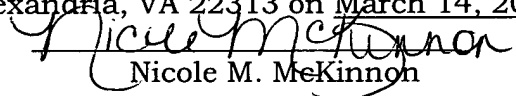
FILED: Oct. 11, 2001

ART UNIT: 1625

FOR: Boat Tropanes

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited the United State Postal Service as Express Mail "Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No.: EV 517932849 US addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on March 14, 2005.


Nicole M. McKinnon

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

(FILED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION)

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated September 13, 2005 ("the Office Action"), the response time to which is extended to and including March 14, 2005 by the accompanying Request for Extension of Time, Applicants request entry of the

Peter Meltzer, *et al.*
U.S.S.N. 09/975,586
Page 2 of 12

following amendment and consideration of the remarks that follow. A Request for Continued Examination accompanies this Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.